I am in support of <u>SB 237 AAC</u> to **prohibit** the storage and disposal of fracking waste in CT.

The fact that a branch of private industry has been granted an exemption, so they have no need to comply with the Clean Air Act of 1970, the Clean Water Act of 1972, the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, the Superfund law and nearly a dozen other environmental regulations, is unconscionable.

In the name of "national energy independence" we are permitting monetary profit for a few, at the expense of environmental contamination that we will all pay for, for generations to come.

Hydro fracking is now done in 34 states and every event has resulted in unintended environmental contamination. This includes groundwater contamination so serious that tap water became flammable, the destruction of spawning waters for protected fish species, and air contamination so severe that it was determined to be the direct cause of human death.

Fracking fluid is composed of 596+ chemicals and more than 12 of these are known carcinogens. These chemicals are injected some 8,000 feet underground in "proprietary" volumes. The chemical mixture is then mixed with 1.7 million gallons of water for each fracking event. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 permits up to eighteen (18) fracking events for a single well and only 1/2 of the so called "Processed Water" (used fracking fluid and water) is extracted for disposal. This is a problem. The other half of this toxic mixture is still in the ground and the liquid waste that is collected needs to be treated and disposed of.

As of February 1st, 2014, there is no known practical way of treating Processed Water from fracking. The proposal is to "store" this hazardous waste until we find a method of treatment, but there is no funding adequate to support the development of this new treatment technology.

Waste fracking water disposal is perhaps the smallest part of the overall problem. If we allow it to happen in our state, we are supporting the industry that has already caused billions of dollars of property damage, and immeasurable wildlife and habitat destruction.

Fracking is now allowed with very limited legal repercussions. Law suits are paid for immediate damages and the practice continues state after state across America.

Stop the madness. Stop the provisions that make fracking (as we know it today) profitable. Stop any provision to store used fracking fluid waste in our State.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry Gourd